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Dee Margo

City Council

District 1
Peter Svarzbein

District 2
Alexsandra Annello

District 3
Cassandra Hernandez

District 4
Dr. Sam Morgan

District 5
Isabel Salcido

District 6
Claudia Ordaz Perez

District 7
Henry Rivera

District 8
Cissy Lizarraga

City Manager
Tommy Gonzalez

WORK SESSION MINUTES
HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
CITY 3 BUILDING, 801 TEXAS AVENUE
MUIR CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019, 4:00 P.M.

The El Paso Historic Landmark Commission held a work session in the City 3 Building, 801 Texas Avenue, Muir Conference Room, Second Floor, Monday, January 14, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

The following commissioners were present: 6

Chairman D.J. Sevigny

Vice-Chairwoman Vicki Hamilton

Commissioner Sherry Mowles

Commissioner Charles Stapler

Commissioner Don Luciano (left meeting at 5:14 p.m.)

Commissioner Ivan Lopez

Commissioner not present: 3

Commissioner Chris Esper

Commissioner Robert Palacios

Commissioner Francisco Macias

The following City staff members were present:

Ms. Providencia Velázquez, Historic Preservation Officer, Planning & Inspections Department

Mr. Russell Abeln, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office

Member of the public:

Valerie Venecia, Heritage Tourism Coordinator, El Paso County

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sevigny called the Work Session to order.



Other Business – Discussion and Action

1. Discussion and Action on revisions to the ordinance (Chapter 20.20).

The El Paso Historic Landmark Commission held a work session in the City 3 Building, 801 Texas Avenue, Muir Conference Room, Second Floor, Monday, January 14, 4:00 p.m. The work session was to discuss changes to Chapter 20.20. No action was taken at the meeting.

Commissioners and staff discussed historic landmark designations by the Federal, State and local governments, The National Register of Historic Places, and tax credits.

Ms. Venecia commented on the County Commissioners' concerns of the existing language for Chapter 20.20 Historic Landmark Preservation, specifically properties within a historic district, whether contributing or non-contributing, eligible or warehouse type structure, must comply with the Certificate of Appropriateness' lengthy, time consuming process.

Commissioners and Ms. Velázquez responded to comments from Ms. Venecia.

Commissioners and staff suggested the following revisions to the ordinance (Chapter 20.20). **Proposed changes are highlighted in yellow.**

Commissioner Lopez referred to **Section 20.20.010 – Declaration of policy.** and requested the following change:

Section 20.20.010.I.

- I. To prevent the uprooting and destruction of architectural products of distinct periods, which may occur without regard to the feasibility of preserving and continuing the use of such landmarks, and without consideration to the irreplaceable loss to the people of the city of the cultural, historic and aesthetic values represented by such landmarks. Alteration shall include, but not be limited to, the changing of roofing or siding material; changing, eliminating or adding doors, door frames, windows, window frames, shutters, fences, railings, porches, balconies, roofs, signs or other ornamentation; the changing of paint color; re-grading; fill; imploding or use of dynamite. Alternation shall not include ordinary repair and maintenance.



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Commissioner Lopez referred to **Section 20.20.020.8 – Definitions.** and requested the following change:

Section 20.20.020.8

8. “Building” means a structure created to shelter people or things, such as a house, barn, church, hotel, warehouse or similar structure, including a historically related complex, such as a courthouse and jail or a house and bar.
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Commissioner Lopez referred to **Section 20.20.020.27 – Definitions.** and requested the following change:

Section 20.20.020.27

27. “Historic Landmark Commission” (“HLC”) is the commission appointed by the mayor and City Council to assist in the preparation of the city’s historic preservation plan, to create and review guidelines for historic districts, to review and approve, approve with conditions or deny applications relating to historic properties and to perform other functions as delineated in Title 2.

27. “Historic Landmark Commission (“HLC”)” is the commission appointed by the mayor and City Council to assist in the preparation of the city’s historic preservation plan, to create and review guidelines for historic districts, to review and approve, approve with conditions, or deny applications relating to historic properties and to perform other functions as delineated in Title 2.

Commissioner Lopez referred to **Section 20.20.020.40 – Definitions.** and requested the following change:

Section 20.20.020.40

40. “Reconstruction” means the act or process of reassembling, reproducing or replacing by new construction, the from, detail and appearance of a destroyed or vanished property and its setting as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of later workmanship, or by the replacement of missing earlier work, or by reuse of original materials.

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Commissioner Lopez referred to **Section 20.20.040 – Procedure for designation of historic landmarks and districts.** and requested the following change:

Section 20.20.020.40.A.

- A. The City Council may designate buildings, structures, sites, districts, areas and lands in the city as historic landmarks and define, amend and delineate the boundaries thereof. Requests for designation may be made by the City Council, HLC or by the public on a form obtained from the city. Completed request forms shall be returned to the city for processing

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MOTION:
Motion made by Chairman Sevigny and seconded by Commissioner Stapler AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:42 P.M.